

APPLICATION SER. NO. 10/722,678 CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of Application Ser. No. 10/722,678 as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A sweetener composition, comprising:

- (a) N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester; and
- (b) aspartame,

wherein said aspartame is present in said composition in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total amount of said aspartame and said

N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal.

11. (Three Times Amended) A method for preparing a drink composition, comprising dissolving:

(A) a mixture, comprising

- (a) N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester;
- and

(b) aspartame;

[and] in

(B) a potable liquid, wherein said aspartame is present in said mixture in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total amount of said aspartame and said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal.

13. (Three Times Amended) A method for producing a sweetener, comprising:

mixing N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester with aspartame, to obtain said sweetener composition, wherein said aspartame is present in said sweetener composition in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total weight of said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and said aspartame and wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal.

15. (Three Times Amended) A method for improving the dissolution rate of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester, comprising: mixing said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester with aspartame, prior to dissolving said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester, wherein said aspartame is mixed with said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total weight of said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and said aspartame and wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal.

APPLICATION SER. NO. 90/007,164 CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of Application Ser. No. 90/007,164 as follows:

Claim 12 (Amended): A method for preparing a sweetener composition, comprising:

(1) drying A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester to obtain C-type crystals of

N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester; and

(2) mixing said C-type crystals of [N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester with aspartame, to obtain said sweetener composition, wherein said aspartame is present in said sweetener composition in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total weight of said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and said aspartame, and wherein said

N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal having a water content of less than 3% by weight.